

STATE SENATOR • MARTHA G. SCOTT

# Scott Press Release



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## Scott Bill to Increase Lead Screening Goes to Governor

*Scott: Closing this loop-hole will bring treatment to many needy children.*

**LANSING** –All children participating in the Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Food Program (WIC) will now receive lead screening in a bill passed today by the House and Senate. The Governor is expected to quickly sign SB 1198, sponsored by State Senator Martha G. Scott (D-Highland Park).

“Children need to be healthy and strong in order to do well in school and succeed later in life,” said Scott. “Testing and treating more children for lead poisoning will ensure these children get a good start.”

Currently, approximately 300,000 Michigan children are served by the WIC program. Between 75 and 80 percent of them are enrolled in the Medicaid program, which already requires lead screening testing. Detroit children make up a solid majority of the confirmed cases of lead poisoning statewide although less than half of them are currently tested for lead poisoning.

“Detroit children are disproportionately affected by lead poisoning,” said Scott. “The new law will close an important loop-hole in the lead-screening program and bring treatment to many children in need.”

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*Senator Scott represents the 2<sup>nd</sup> Senate District, which includes areas of Detroit and the cities of Hamtramck, Harper Woods, Highland Park and all of the Grosse Pointes. She serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee.*